

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 00830 031518Z

46-42

ACTION IO-14

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R 031305Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4366

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 830

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, UN

SUBJECT: UNTSO - ASSIGNMENT OF LT.COL. NICHOLAS KRAWCIW

1. COL. KRAWCIW HAS INFORMED US THAT HE HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED FOR ASSIGNMENT AS BATTALION COMMANDER IN GERMANY AT CONCLUSION OF HIS TWO-YEAR ASSIGNMENT TO UNTSO IN APRIL 1974. THIS IS CHOICE POST WHICH HE MOST ANXIOUS OBTAIN. ALTHOUGH ASSIGNMENT NOT YET DEFINITE (AND SHOULD NOT, THEREFORE, BE DISCUSSED OUT-SIDE DEPT AT THIS POINT), HE WANTED US TO KNOW OF DEVELOPMENT NOW IN ORDER TO DECIDE HOW BEST PROCEED WITH UN TO ENSURE THAT US WOULD RETAIN POST HE HOLDS AS UNTSO CHIEF OF OPERATIONS.

2. ACCORDING KRAWCIW THERE NO OTHER UNTSO OFFICER WHO WOULD BE LIKELY CANDIDATE FOR HIS JOB. HE THINKS IT PROBABLE, THEREFORE, THAT UNTSO CHIEF OF STAFF, GEN. SIILASVOU, WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO APPOINTING KRAWCIW'S SUCCESSOR TO SAME JOB. SINCE SIILASVOU'S TOUR OF DUTY UP SPRING OR SUMMER 1974, HOWEVER, WE SHARE KRAWCIW'S VIEW THAT IT DESIRABLE TIE THIS DOWN WITH SIILASVOU AND UN HEADQUARTERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. (NEITHER WE NOR KRAWCIW KNOW WHETHER SIILASVOU'S TOUR LIKELY TO BE EXTENDED--INFO RE HIS PROSPECTIVE DEPARTURE SHOULD BE PROTECTED.)

3. KRAWCIW EXPECTS RECEIVE DEFINITE WORD OF NEW ASSIGNMENT WITHIN SHORT TIME, AFTER WHICH HE WILL INFORM SIILASVOU OF HIS INTENTION DEPART ON SCHEDULE NEXT APRIL RATHER THAN SEEK EXTENSION OF TOUR. UNLESS DEPT HAS OBJECTION, I WILL
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SHORTLY THEREAFTER RAISE MATTER WITH UNTSO (SIILASVOU OR POL

ADVISER GORGE), EXPRESSING HOPE UN WOULD PLAN ASSIGN KRAWCIW'S SUCCESSOR AS CHIEF OF OPERATIONS AND SUGGESTING THAT UN MIGHT WISH REQUEST ASSIGNMENT SUITABLE OFFICER AS REPLACEMENT ABOUT TWO MONTHS IN ADVANCE OF KRAWCIW'S DEPARTURE TO PERMIT PERIOD OF ORIENTATION SUCH AS KRAWCIW HAD BEFORE TAKING OVER AS OPS OFFICER. SUBSEQUENT USUN APPROACH TO APPROPRIATE SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL COULD BE KEYED TO RESULTS OUR DISCUSSION WITH UNTSO.

4. KRAWCIW HAS DONE EXCELLENT JOB AND WE WILL REGRET HIS DEPARTURE. IT WOULD BE UNFAIR TO HIM, HOWEVER, TO STAND IN WAY OF EXTREMELY DESIRABLE ASSIGNMENT, LOSS OF WHICH COULD SERIOUSLY DAMAGE HIS CAREER PROSPECTS. SINCE IT DEFINITELY IN US INTEREST TO HAVE AMERICAN OFFICER IN KEY OPS OFFICER POSITION, BELIEVE WE SHOULD MOVE PROMPTLY, ONCE KRAWCIW GIVES US WORD, TO TRY ENSURE THAT HIS REPLACEMENT CONTINUES IN THAT POSITION AND THAT REPLACEMENT IS AS WELL-QUALIFIED FOR IT AS KRAWCIW. HE ALSO PREPARED POINT OUT THROUGH HIS CHANNELS IMPORTANCE OF FINDING OFFICER TO REPLACE HIM WHO HAS APPROPRIATE EXPERIENCE AND OTHER QUALIFICATIONS.

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